

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE  
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

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NSC letter 1/8/08

O 001430Z FEB 73  
 FM THE SITUATION ROOM TONAK 290  
 TO SOGMA/LORD FOR DR. KISSINGER  
 ZEM  
 S E C R E T EYES ONLY WH30667

Sanitized Copy

TONAK 290

S E C R E T 001430Z FEB 73

3.3(b)(b)  
EO 12958 as amended

FROM: SODLEY, VIENTIANE 721

TO: IMMEDIATE WHITE HOUSE FOR DR. KISSINGER EYES ONLY

1. YOU HAVE ALREADY NO DOUBT SEEN THE MESSAGE ABOUT THE  
 SIGNING OF THE CEASEFIRE. JUST WISH YOU TO KNOW THAT I  
 HAVE ASKED GENERAL VOGT AND HE HAS CONCURRED TO GIVE THE MAXIMUM  
 AIR SUPPORT TO THE LAO RIGHT UP TO THE MOMENT OF THE CEASEFIRE.  
 THIS IS WHAT SOUVANNA ASKED ME THIS MORNING AND, BASED ON  
 YOUR MESSAGE FROM TOKYO, I AGREED.

2. OUR PRINCIPAL PROBLEM NOW WILL BE THE LAO RIGHT, WHO ARE  
 FINDING SISOUK THEIR SPOKESMAN. I SAW SISOUK JUST  
 BEFORE LUNCH TODAY AND SPOKE TO HIM JUST BEFORE HE WENT TO  
 THE CABINET MEETING AT 1700 THIS AFTERNOON. HE IS EXTREMELY  
 WORRIED ABOUT HIS COUNTRY'S FUTURE, BUT I TOLD HIM BLUNTLY  
 THAT THE CEASEFIRE WAS THE BEST HE COULD EXPECT AT THIS TIME.  
 I ALSO TOLD HIM THAT THE MILITARY MUST BEHAVE THEMSELVES AND  
 THEY ABOVE EVERYONE ELSE IN LAOS SHOULD REALIZE WHAT A  
 WEAK POSITION THEY ARE IN.

3. SOUVANNA SAW SISOUK PRIVATELY THIS MORNING AND OFFERED HIM  
 NATIONAL DEFENSE IN THE NEW GOVERNMENT. SISOUK SAID HE WAS  
 NOT SURE WHETHER HE SHOULD ACCEPT ANY POSITION IN THE NEW  
 GOVERNMENT DUE TO THE DEGREE TO WHICH SOUVANNA HAS SOLD  
 OUT THE RIGHTISTS. I THINK I CONVINCED SISOUK THAT HIS  
 DUTY IS NOW TO BE CONSTRUCTIVE, BUT HE PEARNS WATCHING AND  
 CODDLING.

4. I HAVE ORDERED PO TO BRING INTO LAOS ALL THE MILITARY  
 EQUIPMENT THEY CAN PRIOR TO 1200 LOCAL THURSDAY.

5. EUPHORIA MAY REIGN, BUT NOW WE ARE ENTERING THE  
 REALLY TOUGH STAGE IN LAOS.

6. MANY, MANY THANKS FOR ALL YOUR HELP. ALL THE BEST, AS EVER.  
 300

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